

NESQLUG NEWS
The Journal of Record of
New England Sinclair QL User Group
Vol I, No 5

"A Beacon to Guide the Wandering Sojourner Home from the Abyss of Confusion"

EDITOR'S NOTES

February, as this is written, may not be the cruelest month but it sure gives the blaghs. The holidays are over, and the days get longer but not much warmer and spring still seems years off.

Yet it is a time to reflect on the accomplishments of our group and the QL in general.

From a sub-group in the Boston Computer Society with about 20 members, we have grown to nearly 35 members across the country and from the Gulf to Canada. New members include some who have just come upon the QL. We grow monthly.

Under Ed Kingsley's able direction we have nearly completed a major joint effort at keypunching dozens of published games and useful utilities not heretofore widely available.

Clearly, too, a lot of people have learned a lot that they never would have without the cross fertilization of ideas and knowledge.

Each of us is entitled to a pat on the back for the contributions each has made, and I want to express my thanks to all who have helped me.

In passing it is also worth noting that we missed a significant birthday. Last year Psion turned ten - a feat of endurance rare in an industry that chews up entrepreneurs like a Cuisinart.

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The NESQLUG NEWS is the Journal of the New England Sinclair QL User Group. It is published bi-monthly.

Annual membership is \$10.00 in North America. Overseas members pay higher to cover air mail.

We meet monthly on the first Saturday of odd-numbered months and the first Sunday of even numbered months. If that's a holiday weekend, we meet the following weekend.

NEXT MEETINGS

NESQLUG meets from 11:00am to 4:00pm, Saturday, March 2, at the home of Al & Dorothy Boehm, 33 Selfridge Road, Bedford, MA. Call (617) 275-1097 for directions. Come 9:00 to 10:00 for coffee and set up.

In April, it meets from 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Sunday, April 6, at (a location to be set at the March Meeting.)

Our exchange policy is simple: we-send-you-ours-if-you-send-us-yours (WSYOIYSUY) and you have something to say about the QL.

Please forward exchange issues to Frederick Romer, 31 Fowler St., Jamestown, RI 02835.

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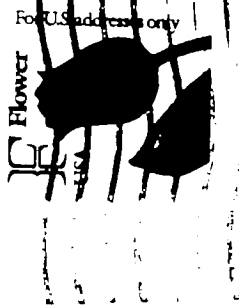
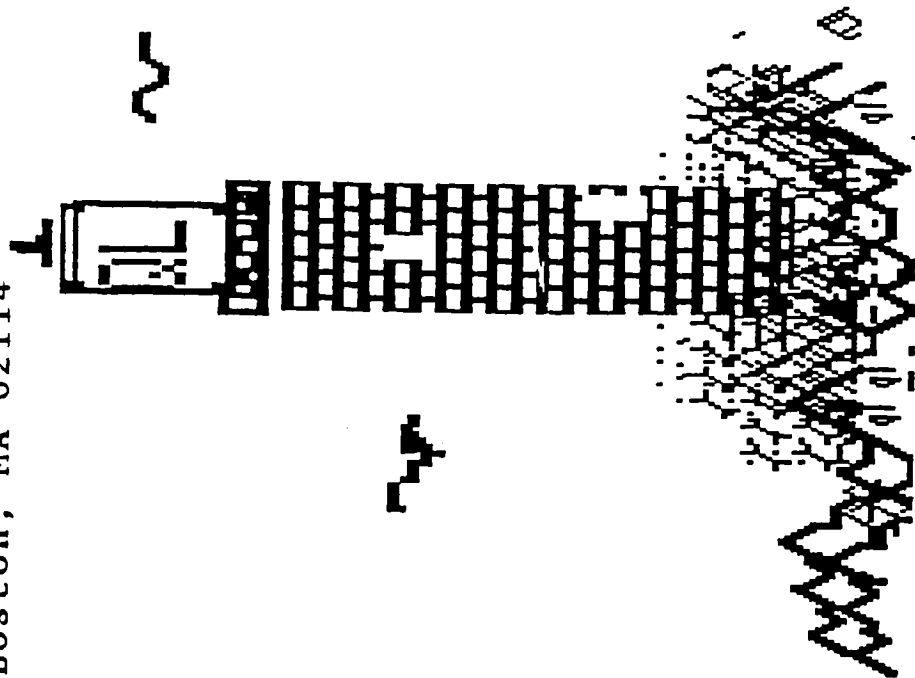
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USERS GROUP
2 P.O. Box 8763
Boston, MA 02114



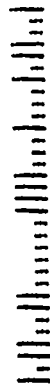
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To: CATUG NITE-TIMES NEWS
% Bob Swoger, Editor
613 Parkside Cir.
Streamwood,
IL 60107

March/April 1991
NESQLUG News



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MEETING MINUTES by Joyce Blahoe, Secretary

The New England Sinclair QL User Group met at the home of Al and Dorothy Boehm on January 5, 1991. 8 people were present: Ed Kingsley, Gary Norton, Al & Dorothy Boehm, Peter Hale, Ernie Wider, Mike Jonas and Joyce Blaho. Gary's father, Frank, was a guest.

Al notified us that Dick Taylor had resigned for personal reasons and since Sherm Waterman hadn't been able to make the meeting, he was elected Treasurer and Membership secretary. Welcome Sherm!

Al related to fellow members his experience of visiting Sharp's. (See Al's report elsewhere.)

Bits and Pieces

Peter related a rumor that 5000 QL units made in Korea are still around. 4,500 are to go to Germany & some for the US. The source of the rumor was not mentioned.

Also if anyone would like to see what a computer can do to control things you should visit MIT's Model Railroad Club in Cambridge.

Gary showed off two programs: Pentathlete and Listscan. Pentathlete is a track and field program with 3 levels of difficulty. It has 5 events and a colorful green field with a scoreboard in the background. If you do poorly in one event you are not allowed to advance to another event. Some bugs remain in the program. A program to supplement this one may be included in the

future.

Lists can is a SuperBASIC program to scan 100 lines of SuperBASIC at a time upward or downward. It is a long program that will be available through our software librarian at our next meeting.

Mike showed Colour Four which lets you to choose the best color combinations with pixel commands.

It uses GOSUBs and GOTOs (which Mike improved on.) A bug is that one of the windows misbehaves.

Mike also showed us Vectext, a program to let you print a string of text anywhere, in any orientation. It adjusts the spacing between letters. A useful program. It has an eight line routine that looks at each bit & knows which bit to turn on or off. It can also rotate a letter or word.

Al showed us a 30 line fractal program from QL User magazine. The fractals increase the length of the line slowly through turtle graphics. We were shown a snowflake fractal.

Peter demonstrated Pokestring, part of a series that lets you POKE a string variable into a memory location, then redefine the variable, but later recover the value by PEEKing the location. It sets up two keyword extensions. You can make many locations; you just have to remember where they are. Useful for passing values between multitasking programs.

Ed showed off Directory to Abacus. It reads the directory of a device then sets up a temporary file that can be imported into ABACUS. (It does not read itself.) Very useful for creating alphabetically ordered, multi-column disk labels.

Al will show us at our next meeting a program that loads all the bits to create a world map that can "Zoom" in on any latitude or longitude and display at a resolution of 10 miles. A must see!

(cont. page 11)

NESQLIBRARY UPDATE

by Ed Kingsley

A Newsletter or two ago, the matter of exchanging software Libraries with other User Groups was discussed. Hugh Howie, NESQLUG member and QL librarian of the TORONTO TIMEX-SINCLAIR USERS CLUB, has sent us theirs for ours and it becomes the first of what I hope will become a number of such exchanges with other QL groups in the US, Canada and abroad. Thank you Hugh.

Of the (5) disks of programs we received from Hugh only about a half dozen appear to duplicate any in our Library. The swap was a little lopsided though, since they only got ONE of our disks for FIVE of theirs.

I am poised to issue NESQLUG Volume Two and only the paucity of available material prevents me from finishing the job. There's a appeal in there to all NESQLUGers with programs still in-hand from previous meetings. Now is the time for you to fulfill your pledges and send in your donations. We've got a good start, but we still need your help. If you have taken a program to key in but find that other commitments keep you from getting it done, please return it to me and I will try to find it another home. If you've typed it in, but can't get it to work, bring or send it to Peter or me (with the Listings) and we will have a go at it. Call first, though, since we may be able to help you find the problem yourself. It will be a definite advantage for us to have a larger Library in order to exchange with European User Groups which have extensive collections.

PROGRAMS IN PROGRESS

NAME	ISSUE	CODE	TYPE	DONOR
Aardvark	7/85	SB ***	AI	D. Burns
3D Graph Generator	2-7/8	SB *	Appl	A. Boehm
Background Music	5/89	MC *	Appl	M. Jonas
Graph Plotter	3/89	SB *	Appl	J. Wloch
3D Naughts/Crosses	7/86	SB	Game	S. Waterman
Cube	7/89	SB	Game	M. Jonas
Giro	12/88	SB	Game	F. Romer
Picture Puzzle	7/87	SB	Game	F. Romer
Sliding Puzzle	12/85	SB	Game	F. Romer
Tiger	5/90	SB	Game	W. Cable
3D Sketchpad	10/89	SB	Graph	M. Jonas
Character Write	12/87	SB ***	Util	J. Blaho
D I Y - PARAMETERS	11/88	MC	Util	W. Cable
D I Y - TUNE/SPEED	3/87	MC	Util	M. Jonas
Data Maker/Loader	9/88	SB *	Util	A. Boehm
File Search	9-11/9	SB *	Util	M. Jonas
List_bas	4/87	SB	Util	S. Ostrander
NUM Function	11/86	SB ***	Util	D. Burns
Renum Revised	9/87	SB *	Util	R. Arsenault
Round Numbers	10/87	SB	Util	R. Arsenault
Save Variables	CR	SB *	Util	A. P. Lewis
Sorting Routines	8/88	SB	Util	S. Ostrander
XREF	7/86	MC	Util	F. Romer

*** = programs taken at the May (1990) meeting (hint, hint)

* = programs taken at the July (1990) meeting.

(Continued page 10)

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MEGABYTES of FREE SOFTWARE

by Peter Hale

Over the past 6 months NESQLUG has been engaged in establishing contacts with the International Freeware Exchange (IFE).

The IFE is the result of the energy of Franz Hermann, the Foreign Contact Section of the Sinclair QL User Club e.V. in GERMANY. This one person has gathered together the Public Domain software of more than a dozen European Groups and individuals.

As of the end of 1990 the IFE had assembled a library of over 30 Megabytes of Public Domain software and that does not include the QUANTA Library. There are 380 packages on 51 disks (only one of which was from NESQLUG) and most duplicates had been eliminated.

Most programs are in English, and there are a number of programs that strike our interest, including a VT-100 terminal emulator and a Fast Disk copier that skips the need to format the disk before copying!

At the March meeting copies of the library printout will be available and there will be a discussion as to whether or not we will order some or all of the library.

The prices are extremely reasonable, and the entire QL world is deeply indebted to the energies of Franz and his colleagues.

FOR SALE

HUSBAND, good used condition, with QL computer. No reasonable offer or trade refused. Will consider blender or upright vacuum cleaner.

Reply to Box Q

A Visit to Sharp's

by Al Boehm

On my New Year's vacation I was able to visit with Mark of Sharp's computers in Mechanicsville, VA. We had an good talk some of which you may want to know about.

However, my first question was mere curiosity: Why is it called Sharp's? Emmett Sharp sold his grocery store to Mark. At first, computers were a sideline so Mark continued to answer the phone "Sharp's".

Many people have complained about not receiving a Sharp's catalog. The answer is that there has been no new catalog in over a year. The reasons are: 1. They are expensive (including postage) and are not cost effective. 2. There have been relatively few additions to stock in the last year. 3. The pound fluctuates (mostly up) too much causing frequent price changes. Mark tries to compensate by advertising new items at the bottom of each invoice.

Mark did have several new games including a solitaire card game with fine graphics and an improved War In the East as well as a font enlarger. He was looking forward to a new board that would make the QL run 2 to 4 times as fast.

There are still several hundred QLs in stock and a good supply of microcartridges. He has had several lucrative offers to buy out his entire cartridge stock but has steadfastly refused. He is committed to selling them retail in small lots, e.g. \$11.95 for a set of 4 without tabs.

I asked Mark about the Minerva ROMs. He had tried to obtain a license to sell them but was unable to do so.

We talked over an hour but finally Dorothy, my wife, came in from the car where she had been patiently waiting, and we continued our trip back to chilly Massachusetts.

QL To IBM RGB Monitor Connections

by Bob Gilder

In the past few weeks I have had three requests for information on hooking-up an IBM CGA or RGB Monitor to a QL. The following information will allow anyone with soldering experience to make an appropriate cable between the QL and an RGB monitor.

You may have a problem with the horizontal sync inversion from a negative going sync signal from the QL to a positive going horizontal signal required for almost all American CGA/RGB monitors.

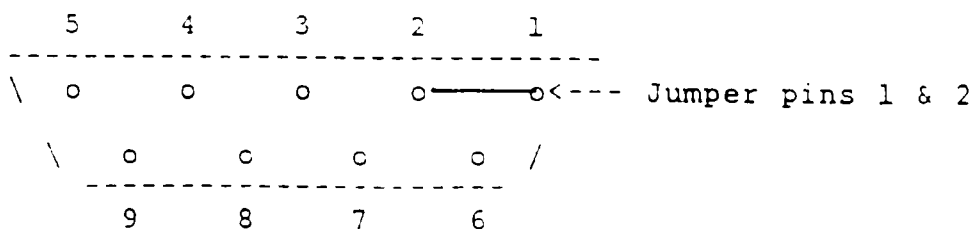
The following diagrams are for a 74LS00 TTL IC (Quad 2-input positive-nand gate.) Pins 1 and 2 are tied together to form an inverter input. The negative signal from the QL enters the inverter at pins 1 & 2. The sync signal is inverted within the IC. A positive horizontal sync signal is output at pin 3 which is connected to the horizontal pin on the monitor connector.

A 74LS04 Hex inverter IC can be used - just use pin 1 as the horizontal input from the QL and pin 2 will be the inverted sync signal output connected to the monitor connector.

All parts for this project can be purchased at any Radio Shack store. In addition to the two connectors and IC, you will need a 9 pin 'D' connector hood, which if you are careful, can house the IC - just carefully clip all unused pins on the IC and bend pins 1, 2, 3, 7, & 14 in towards the center of the IC.

Solder the wires with minimum solder and install the IC upside down (pins facing up) and the two piece connector hood will house it, allowing a clean appearing installation. You will also need a length of cable determined by your requirement. The cable need only be 7 conductors, or if you wish, use 7 - single lengths of multi-stranded wire to form your cable.

Male 9 Pin 'D' plug (solder pin side)



Connections to the male 9 pin 'D' connector

Pin #'s

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Ground (common) |
| 2 | Ground (common) |
| 3 | Red (RGB signal) |
| 4 | Green (RGB signal) |
| 5 | Blue (RGB signal) |
| 6 | N/C (no connection) |
| 7 | N/C (no connection) |
| 8 | Horizontal Sync (negative signal - must be inverted) |
| 9 | Vertical Sync (Most monitors do not require Neg. sync) |

Use pin #7
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'D' connect
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Connections

Pin #'s

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|---|--------|
| 1 | + 5 v |
| 2 | Ground |
| 3 | Compo |
| 4 | Horiz |
| 5 | Verti |
| 6 | Green |
| 7 | Red (|
| 8 | Blue |

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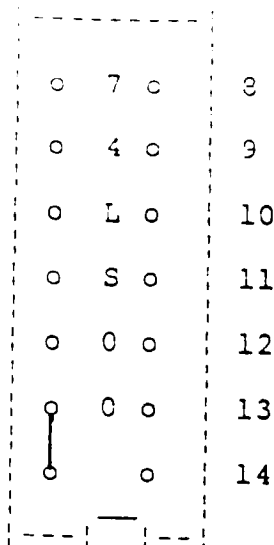
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Use pin #7, IC-1 as common
Ground points for both
cable connectors -
(9 pin 'D' pin # 1 & 2)
(8 pin 'Din pin # 2).

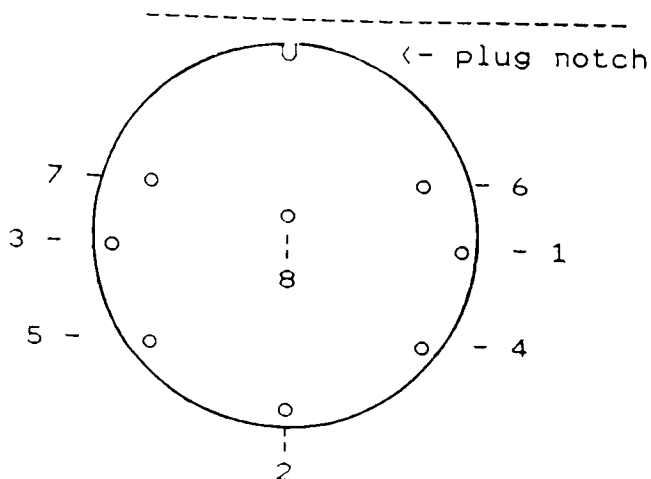
Horiz Sync out to 9 pin<-3
'D' connector, pin #8.
Horiz Sync input from ->2
QL connector (pin #4)
(Pins 1 & 2 are jumped
together to form an
inverted signal input).



IC-1 will only have
5 pins used, #'s 1,
2, 3, 7, and 14.

14<- +5 volts from QL
connector (Pin #1).

74LS00 TTL IC wired as an inverter - IC-1
Bottom side up (pins up)



8 Pin Male DIN connector(solder pin side)

Connections to the male Din 8 pin connector (at the QL)

Pin #'s

- 1 + 5 volts DC
- 2 Ground (common)
- 3 Composite Signal (not used for RGB)
- 4 Horizontal Sync (negative sync - must be inverted)
- 5 Vertical Sync (Most monitors do not require Neg. sync)
- 6 Green (RGB signal)
- 7 Red (RGB signal)
- 8 Blue (RGB signal)

Cable Connector hookups (A given connection is repeated for
each end of a wire, first from the 8 pin Din, then from the 9
pin "D" and finally from the IC-1.)

Pin #1, 8 pin Din to pin #14, IC-1 (+ 5 Volts DC)
Pin #2, 8 pin Din to pin #7, IC-1 (Common Ground)

Pin #3, 8 pin Din NOT USED!
 Pin #4, 8 pin Din to pin #'s 1 & 2, IC-1 (Horizontal sync input)
 Pin #5, 8 pin Din to pin #9, 9 pin 'D' (Vertical Sync)
 Pin #6, 8 pin Din to pin #4, 9 pin 'D' (Green RGB signal)
 Pin #7, 8 pin Din to pin #3, 9 pin 'D' (Red RGB signal)
 Pin #8, 8 pin Din to pin #5, 9 pin 'D' (Blue RGB signal)

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contacts
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Pin #1 and #2, 9 pin 'D' to pin #7, IC-1 (Common Ground)
 Pin #3, 9 pin 'D' to pin #7, 8 pin Din (Red RGB signal)
 Pin #4, 9 pin 'D' to pin #6, 8 pin Din (Green RGB signal)
 Pin #5, 9 pin 'D' to pin #8, 8 pin Din (Blue RGB signal)
 Pin #6 & #7, 9 pin 'D' NOT USED!
 Pin #8, 9 pin 'D' to pin #3, IC-1 (Positive Horizontal sync output)
 Pin #9, 9 pin 'D' to pin #5, 8 pin Din, if required (Vertical sync)

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Pin #'s 1 & 2, IC-1 to pin #4, 9 pin 'D' (Negative Horizontal sync)
 Pin #3, IC-1, to pin #8, 9 pin 'D' (Positive Horizontal sync out)
 Pin #7, IC-1 (two wires), to pin #'s 1 & 2, 9 pin 'D' and to pin #2, 8 pin Din
 Pin #14, IC-1, to pin #1, 8 pin Din (Pin #1 is labeled PAL in the QL manual, however, the US QL's have a +5 volt DC connection at this pin).

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List of parts: Radio Shack part numbers indicated

274-026	8 pin male DIN plug	\$1.79
276-1537	9 pin male "D" Hood	\$0.99
276-1539	9 pos 'D' Hood	\$0.79
276-1801	7400 Quad 2-input NAND gate	\$0.89
276-1302	7404 Hex inverter	\$0.99 *
278-775	9 conductor, double shielded cable	\$0.59 per foot

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* Use the 7404 Hex inverter as an alternate IC.

Additional Information:

An RGB monitor displays 8 primary colors: black, red, yellow, cyan, green, blue, magenta and white. On a CGA monitor, yellow appears brown and white is tinted blue or dirty looking. This is set-up in the G2's (grids of the picture tube) to produce these differences in color because CGA monitors have an additional line called Intensity. CGA can provide 16 colors if the intensity line is used - but only on an IBM! Yellow will be yellow when intensified and white will be white. You may also find that when you power-up the QL, the tweed memory check display and the F1 - F2 display will roll until you press either function key; then it will stabilize. Try not using the vertical sync line, it may eliminate this problem.

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NOTE: If you require any assistance, contact me through LIST.

INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION for EMSOft

BOSTON, MA February 15, 1991

Peter Hale, Managing Director of EMSOft, the Boston based QL software house, announced today that in recognition of its international reputation in QL software development, he had been invited to establish trade and technical assistance relationships with the Soviet Union.

Speaking at a Ratheon sponsored reception in honor of Wolf Blitzer, Mr. Hale said that it has long been known that the superior qualities of the QDOS operating system attracted Russian interest. Until now, however, it had not been realized that the Soviets were preparing a major effort to put that system into use in their country.

Mr. Hale also speculated that renewed interest in the Archive database management system and its widespread use within the British military had prompted the invitation.

"We are particularly gratified to be identified as a major resource in this area", he said. "Perhaps now North American creativity with the computer will be acknowledged elsewhere across the Atlantic."

"We will be responding by the first Monday in April", he concluded.

A copy of the invitation is attached.



Советско-американская конференция по торговле и экономическому сотрудничеству

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Mr. Peter R. Hale
PO Box 8763
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Mr. Hale:

President Mikhail Gorbachev has approved a request from Stanislav Shatalin, author of the 500 day plan, to invite Soviet and American entrepreneurs and businessmen from medium and small businesses to meet in the Kremlin in May 1991.

The Soviet Organizing Committee for The Soviet/American Conference on Trade and Economic Cooperation has asked that executives from selected American organizations receive invitations to participate. I am writing to invite you to attend what the Soviets are calling "possibly the most significant business interchange in the history of relations between our two countries."

Most media emphasis is placed on government and national economic policies, yet the behind the American economy have always been private citizens and why the focus of this conference is commercial. This conference number of visas issued to American is due to seating a small number the Kremlin Palace. Even though the conference agenda is still evolving, I wish to extend an invitation to you to register in advance for the Moscow Conference. All registrations will be accepted on the order received; all deposits are fully refundable until 60 days prior to the conference.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. If you have any questions, please call me at (206) 728-1546 in the Pacific time zone.

Sincerely,

Lee Harfield
Executive Director

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DO FILE COMMANDS by Al Boehm

For some reason ALTKEY (a Toolkit II extension, which allows a key to be defined as a command or string of SuperBASIC statements) doesn't work right on my THOR.

So I started to use the extension DO to execute files on the THOR and the QL. In some cases it works out better than ALTKEY.

DO is also a Toolkit II extension, but as shown later you don't need Toolkit II to use the method!

A DO file is an unnumbered SuperBASIC file. It accesses the file and performs all instructions without merging the instructions to an existing SuperBASIC program.

As an illustration, my printer can print 10, 12, or 18 characters per inch. To change the characters per inch, a command must be sent to the printer via the serial port.

To set the printer to 12 characters per inch, rather than type in the command (which I would have to look up in the printer manual), I simply type: **DO P12** (where P12 is a file name.)

But before I could DO this, a file had to be created that contained the necessary printer commands. This file must be in the form of a SuperBASIC one-liner. With multiple statements separated by colons, a single line can be very long and complex indeed (in fact it can have 32768 bytes).

In my example the line is:

OPEN#3,ser1:PRINT#3,CHR\$(27);'&k4S';

(Note that the PRINT command is terminated by a semi-colon so that a line feed is not generated with the command.)

The first statement links the channel identifier #3 with the ser1 port (which is what my printer is hooked into). The CHR\$(27) is the

character for ESCAPE and '&k4S' is the sequence to set my HP Paintjet printer to 12 characters per inch.

I didn't show it in the example, but I always add a REMark at the end of each DO file that says what it does and where it came from.

MAKING A ONE-LINER

First, I tested the line in SuperBASIC (with a line number - I used 10 - in front).

Then I typed **OPEN_NEW #5,mdv2_P12** (from the command line.) This starts a new file on mdv2.

Next, I typed **EDIT 10** to bring the line down to the command window. I erased the 10 and put quotes before and after the line.

At the front of the line I added: **PRINT#5,** and hit ENTER. If you expect to see the mdv2 light go on at this time, you'll be disappointed because first you need to type **CLOSE#5.** What is written to a file is held in a buffer until the buffer is full or the file is closed.

Now all that you need to do to set the printer to 12 characters per inch is to type **DO P12** from SuperBASIC) if Toolkit II is installed and mdv2 is the default device (or **DO mdv2_P12.**)

Without Toolkit II, I can still use it by typing:

MERGE mdv2_P12

If you try to load the command to edit it, the command will execute but will not stay to be listed. Instead you must type: **AUTO:merge mdv2_P12** then press ENTER. AUTO starts the automatic line numbering procedure.

Then push CTRL and space together to end AUTO with a "Not complete" message. The DO file will appear as line 100, since that is the default start number of AUTO. Use AUTO with a number (example: **AUTO 5000**) to bring in the DO file on a different line number.

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LOAD can be used instead of MERGE either to execute the DO file or along with AUTO to load the DO file, but LOAD will clear any program that is currently in the QL.

Compared to ALTKEY, DO files require no ram storage, can have longer, more easily remembered names, and work with plain Super-BASIC. DO files also work within a program but stop execution when they finish rather than going on to the next statement.

For some purposes this is OK, for example, printing a lengthy error message. On the other hand, ALTKEY works in Quill, Archive, etc. but DO files only work from SuperBASIC.

NESQLIBRARY UPDATE (from p. 3)

It was a pleasure to meet the Ostranders at the February meeting at Peter's. Hope you both had a good dinner and a safe trip back to Poughkeepsie and that the pain and swelling in Steve's brain has subsided. Steve, you better send me four (4) cartridges for the Library. I hope we'll see you both again soon.

I asked in the last Newsletter that anyone with a topic to share with the group should contact Al Boehm. Ernie Wider has kindly consented to coordinate the meeting agendas and yhe is now the one to make yourself known to.

I have received (15) questionnaires to date. I would still like to hear from everyone in the group, so if you haven't gotten around to it yet, do it already and send it to me. I'll even be happy to take it by phone and save you the \$0.29 stamp.

[The LIST library arrived since Ed Kingsley wrote this, and he is checking for duplicates -Ed]

POKES by Peter Hale

From the Milwaukee SMUG Bytes, which copied it from the Chicago NITE-TIMES NEWS came the following tid-bits on useful POKES:

Location	Effect
POKE 163976,255	CAPS LOCK ON
POKE 163976,0	CAPS LOCK OFF
POKE 163891,1	FREEZE SCREEN
POKE 98403,2	BLANK SCREEN
POKE 98403,0	UNBLANK SCREEN
POKE 98403,64	SHIFT SCREEN
POKE 98403,8	TRY IT
POKE_L 163900,0	DISABLE BREAK

It is suggested that you test these without other software loaded until you understand their use.

For those of you frustrated by the "TRY IT" above, it's because the effect is hard to describe, but it is interesting. The effects can be canceled by the POKE to UNBLANK the SCREEN.

Which raises an interesting subject.

There are dozens of POKES that are either useful or fun or both. One that comes to mind is POKE 163890.

If the parameter is 0, the screen is put in Monitor mode (as when you press F1 on power-up); if 1, it is in UK TV; and if 2, it is in US TV (both as when you press F2). Thus even a JSU machine can look like a UK TV screen.

However, for this to be activated it must be followed by NEW, which of course means that any SuperBASIC program in memory is gone. Before you give up on keypunching a European magazine program, try setting your machine to UK TV, then reload.

If you know of others, please submit them. We will try to come up with a list for the casual user and instructions on using them.

[Thanks to Fred Romer, our Exchange Librarian for finding this article.]

MINUTES (cont from page 2)

A note from our software librarian:
If you see any bugs in programs
and/or know how to fix them, please
let him know.

February 4 meeting supplement,
from notes by Al Boehm.

Steve Ostrander and his wife from
Poughkeepsie, NY, made their first
appearance at the alternate meeting
held at Peter Hale's house in
Chelsea. Eight others were present.

Peter opened the meeting by
demonstrating techniques for
debugging SuperBASIC programs
and interpreting error messages.

Al Boehm noted that when looking
for errors it is useful to list a
suspected line number (e.g. LIST
100) rather than to edit it. The
reason is that editing requires that
a program be rerun to test further
for a suspected bug, but that after
LISTing, you can type CONTINUE to
pick up where you left off. This
does not work if you fix the bug.

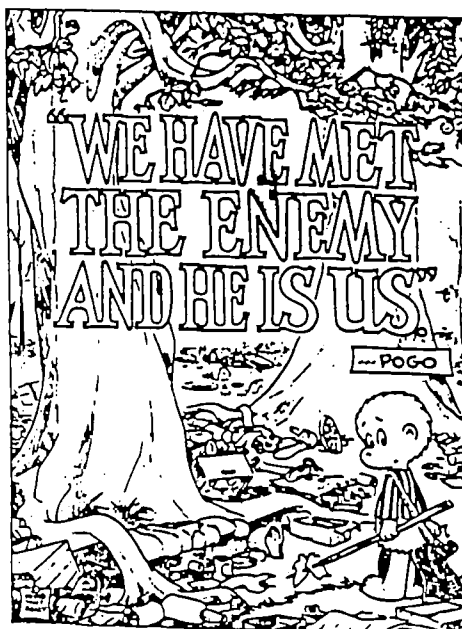
Sherm Waterman's first draft of 3-D
TicTacToe was worked on as a
demonstration of de-bugging.

The observation was made that many
bugs result from keypunch errors
when poor variable names are
chosen by a programmer. Particu-
larly confusing variable names
include the numeral zero and the
letter "O", the number "1" and the
letter "l", and the use of the letter
"s" as a plural in a string variable
because of the confusion with "\$".

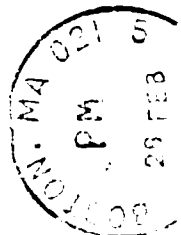
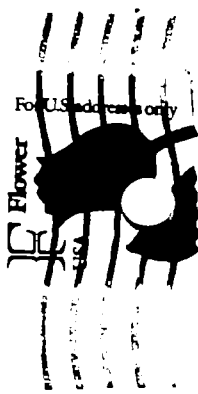
Steve Ostrander showed off a
powerful SuperBASIC program demo
that showed how he uses a QL to
run a two-store furniture business.

The Psion Install_bas program was
demonstrated for those seeking to
use the Translate slots to get more
power from Quill at the printer.

SuperToolkit II extensions were
demonstrated for those who had not
yet discovered its power.



EARTH DAY ANNIVERSARY - In 1970, the late
cartoonist Walt Kelly used Pogo's most famous
line to make a statement in a poster distributed
around the time of the first Earth Day.



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